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appeared to me of considerable importance: I had observed the usual disregard of classical literature in this country increasing into studied contempt.

The topics used to effect it were plausible, and those that might be advanced to counteract it not quite so

obvious. If you approve of what I have here advanced, I hope you will signify that approbation, and so endeavour to remedy the injury already done, and I am sure the expression of your approbation will, and deservedly possess much weight with your readers.

ATTICUS.

**THE NAMES OF THE SOVEREIGNS AND BURGESSSES OF BELFAST SINCE
THE YEAR 1612.**

Burgesses Names.	The time when made Burgesses.	The times and dates when made Sovereigns.
John Vesey		First Sovereign, 1613.
Sir Fulk Conway		
Thomas Hebbots, esq.		
Moses Hill, esq.		
Humphrey Norton, esq.		
William Lesley		
John Willoughby		
Carew Hart		1627.
John Ash		1646.
Daniel Boothe		Burgesses by Charter, 1615.
James Burr		
Walterhouse Crimble		In 1630, removed for 16 years absence.
John Burr, gentleman		1662.
The lord of the castle, and constable of the castle of Belfast, for the time being are burgesses.		
Edward Holmes, gent. left £40 to the poor		1619.
George Theaker		1631, 1634, removed for being 6 years out of the kingdom
Lewis Thompson		1635, 1636, 1639.
Henry Le Squire		1632, 1644, 1648.
Robert Foster		1633.
Thomas Brainston		1634.
Lewis Thompson		Removed for absence
Gawn Boltby		1638, 1635.
John Leathes, sen.		1641, 1650, 1651.
Thomas Harrington		1637.
John Washer		1643, 1654.
Thomas Theaker, John Haddock		1640.
Richard Gately, in place of Gawn Boltby	Feb. 8, 1640.	
Thomas Bradley		
Thomas Stevenson, in place of John Willoughby	Feb. 8, 1640	1642.
John Davison, in place of Lewis Thompson	Decr. 4, 1642.	
John Mitchell, in place of Thomas Brainston.	Decr. 4, 1642.	

Burgesses Names.	The time when made Burgesses.	The times and dates when made Sovereigns.
William Leathers, in place of John Washer.	Decr. 4, 1642.	1645, 1657, 1658, 1659.
George Martin, in place of Henry Le Squire	Oct. 30, 1645.	1649.
Hugh Doak, in place of John Haddock	Oct. 30, 1645.	1647.
John Leathes, jun. in place of Thomas Stevenson	June 18, 1646.	
Thomas Warring	June 24, 1652.	1652, 1653, 1656, 1665, 1666 in that year died.
John Rigby, in place of Thomas Hanning	Sept. 17, 1655.	1661, first sovereign made justice of peace for the county of Antrim, which still continues to the sovereign for the time being.
Francis Meek, in place of Richard Gately	June 13, 1657.	1660
George Macartney, in place of John Ash	Sept. 17, 1659.	1663, 1664, 1668, 1669, 1676, 1677, 1678, 1679, and 1680, justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
William Warring in place	Sept. 17, 1660.	1670, 1671, justice of peace for the county of Antrim.
Thomas Walcot, in place of William Leathes	June 25, 1660.	1672.
Francis Thelford, in place of Thomas Warring	Dec. 1, 1665.	1681.
George Macartney in place of Francis Meek	Dec. 1, 1665.	1673, 1674, and 1701.
Hugh Eccles, in place of John Davis	Dec. 2, 1667.	1675.
Sir Hercules Langford, in place of John Rigby	April 24, 1669.	Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
Robert Leathes in place of Hugh Doak	Aug. 26, 1669.	1680, 1687, 1688, 1689, 1690, 1697, 1714. Resigned in 1717. 14th June 1690, King William landed at Carrickfergus, and that day came to Belfast; received with the greatest acclamations of joy, stayed at Belfast five days.—The sovereign and burgesses had the honour of kissing his Majesty's hand.
James Macartney, in place of William Warring	Oct. 19, 1676.	1692, resigned 1715. Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
Henry Thelford, in place of John Leathes, sen.	June 14, 1677.	
Lewis Thompson, in place of Henry Thelford	July 25, 1678.	1682, 1696.
John Hamilton, in place of George Martin	July 25, 1678.	1683, 1684.
Edward Harrison, in place of Sir Her. Langford	Aug. 27, 1680.	1695, Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
Thomas Knox, in place of Gilbert Wye	Aug. 27, 1680.	1685. Resigned in 1697. Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
Sampson Theaker, in place of Hugh Eccles	June 24, 1681.	
John Tookey, in place of Edward Reynolds	April 6, 1682.	

Burgesses Names.	the time when made Burgesses.	The times and dates when made Sovereigns.
William Crawford in place of John Hamilton	May 4, 1686.	1693, 1694. Removed for not being qualified according to the statute.— Member of parliament for Belfast.
William Lockard, in place of John Tooley	May 7, 1687.	1691.
James Buller, in place of John Walcott	Feb 25, 1689.	
David Smyth, in place of Francis Thelford	May 26, 1690.	1699, 1700.
The Rt. Hon. Arthur, Earl of Donegall in place of Sampson Theaker	March 7, 1691.	1698. Resigned in 1697.
Arthur Macartney in place of George Macartney	June 1, 1691.	
John Chambers, in place of John Leathes	April 8, 1693.	1702 Removed for not being qualified according to the statute.
The hon. Charles Chichester, place of the Earl of Don egall, now lord of the cas- tle of Belfast	Dec. 23, 1697.	
Edward Brice, in place of Thomas Knox	Dec. 23, 1697.	Member of parliament for Belfast; re- moved from his burgess for not being qualified.
The hon. John Chichester, in place of Wm. Lockart	Dec. 6, 1698.	1712. Member of Parliament for Belfast.
Richard Willoughby, in place of Patrick Duff	Constable Castle.	
David Butle, in place of Edward Harrison	Oct. 14, 1700.	in 1703 and 1704, surrendered the rod 29th July 1704, by a late act, disabling Dissenters to serve in pub- lick office.
Isaac Macartney, in place of hon. Charles Chichester	April 26, 1701.	Resigned in 1707.
George Macartney, place of George Macartney,ma- jor	Oct. 16, 1702.	Part of 1704, 5, 6, 7 and 8, Membe of Parliament.
Neil M'Neit, in place of James Buller	Feb. 6, 1702.	Removed for not qualifying.
Mich. Harrison, in place of David Smyth	Aug. 6, 1705.	
The hon. John Chichester, place of Arthur Ma- cartney	Dec. 21, 1706.	Removed for being a minor.
John Haibridge, place of Isaac Macartney	April 24, 1707.	
Nath. Byrt, place of Wm. Crawford, not qualifid	Nov. 29, 1707.	1725 ; died in office.
Richard Wilson, in place of Edward Brice, not qua- lified	Nov. 29, 1707.	
George Portes, place of Da- vid Butle, not qualified	Nov. 29, 1707.	

Burgesses Names.	The time when made Burgesses.	The times and dates when made Sovereigns.
Henry Ellis, place of Neil McNeil, not qualified	Nov. 29, 1707.	1717, 1720, 1722; died in office.—From disputes between the family and burgesses, no sovereign for the remainder of this year, nor for 1723.
James Gurner, in place of the hon. John Chichester, a minor	Nov. 29, 1707.	1715, 1716.
Roger Haddock, in place of John Chambers not qualified	Feb. 17, 1707.	1710, 1711, 1712. Resigned 1713.
Nicholas Thelford, place of Lewis Thompson	Feb. 17, 1707.	
George Macartney, major, place of William Harrison	May 2, 1719.	1724, died in office; member of parliament; justice of peace for county Antrim.
Hans Hamilton, in place of Richard Wilson	Dec. 8, 1711.	1713, member of parliament, and justice of peace.
Thomas Banks	Dec. 8, 1711.	C. castle.
Robert Le Byrt	June 24, 1712.	C. castle.
Robert Le Byrt, in place of Roger Haddock	Dec. 28, 1713.	1721, 34, 35, 39, 40 and 43.
Thomas Heweston	May 27, 1718.	C. castle.
Edward Clements, place of judge Macartney	Aug. 16, 1715.	Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
James Macartney, place of Edward Clements	Sept. 13, 1717.	1725, 1726.
John Carpenter, in place of Robert Leathes	Nov. 12, 1723.	1718, 1719.
Hon. John Skeffington, place of Henry Ellis	Nov. 12, 1723.	Member of parliament.
General Nich. Price, place of Nich. Thelford	Nov. 12, 1723.	
Charles M'Cartney, place of James Gurner	Nov. 12, 1723.	Justice of the peace, for the counties of Antrim and Down.
James Reed, place of George Portis	Nov. 12, 1723.	
John Clugson	Aug. 11, 1724.	Part of 1726, 27, 28, 32, and 33.
Hon. John Chichester, place of George M'Cartney, jun.	Aug. 11, 1724.	Member of parliament for Belfast.
Cromwell Price, place of John Halbridge	Feb. 16, 1724.	Member of parliament for Downpatrick, and justice of peace.
Ezekiel Davis Wilson, place of Nathan Byrtt	Feb. 27, 1725.	Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
John Duff, place of James M'Cartney	Sept. 18, 1727.	1730, 1740, 1741, 1742, 1747, and part of 1753, died in office.
Thos. Banks, place of James Rea	Sept. 18, 1727.	1729, Justice of the peace for the counties of Down and Antrim.
Arthur Byrtt, place of James Hamilton	May 12, 1729.	1731, 44, 45, 46 and 47, 53, justice of the peace for the co. of Antrim.
Arthur Thelford, place of John Carpenter	May 20, 1729.	

Burgesses names.	The time when made Burgesses.	The times and dates when made Sovereigns.
Margelson Sanders, place of Arthur Thelford	May 17, 1733.	1736, 1737, 1738, 1748 and 1754.
William Montgomery of Rosemount, place of General Price	July 30, 1735.	Justice of the peace for the county of Down.
Valentine Jones of Lisburn, place of Ezekiel Davis Wilson	May 2, 1738.	Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
Davis Wilson, place of John Clugson	May 4, 1738.	Justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
Hon. Arthur Skeffington, place of Hon. John Skeffington	Sept. 27, 1742.	Member of parliament.
William Macartney, place of Robert Byrtt	Feb. 17, 1745.	Justice of the peace for the county of Down.
Stewart Banks, place of Thomas Banks	May 26, 1746	1755, 1758 and 1762, justice of the peace for the county of Antrim.
George Macartney place of Hon. John Chichester	Sept. 22, 1746.	1749, 1750, 1751, 1756, and 1759.
Jos. Green, place of Hon. Arthur Skeffington	Nov. 6, 1747.	
Hon. Arthur Barry, place of John Duff	Oct. 31, 1753.	Member of parliament for Belfast.
John Gordon, place of Wm. Montgomery	June 6, 1755.	
Stephen Haven, place of Margetson Saunders	Sept. 6, 1757.	1760
James Hamilton, place of Jos. Green	Sept. 6, 1757.	1761
John Ludford, place of George Macartney, sen.	Dec. 8, 1757.	
Thos. Ludford, place of Charles Macartney	March 15, 1759.	
Hon. John Chichester, brother to Arthur Earl of Donegall, place of Davis Wilson	July 17, 1760.	
James Lewis, place of Val. Jones deceased	April 1, 1761.	

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

ON THE ENCOURAGEMENT DUE TO OBSCURE MERIT.

NOTHING I believe more clearly manifests the imperfection of human nature, than the neglect with which merit is treated, when it does not attract attention by the appendages of birth or fortune. The excellence of a peasant, and that of a peer, are almost as differently regarded,

as if it were a vice in the one, and a virtue in the other: and though mankind unanimously condemn such partiality, there is not an individual who has not at some time, and in some degree, been guilty of it. In religion, the sect that most strictly inculcates primitive simplicity, involuntarily allows precedence to the man in rich apparel; and in politics, the leader of a democratic faction would doubtless be obeyed the more